



Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

January 1982

Volume 26 No. 4

MEETING

Foggy Bottom Association

Mayor Marion Barry

Guest Speaker

Monday, January 25

St. Paul's Parish House
2430 K Street, N.W.

8:00 p.m.

New FBA President to be elected

All are welcome

Meeting will begin promptly at 8.

FB Gets its Own Shuttle

In December, shuttle buses began operating every 15 minutes between the Kennedy Center and upper Georgetown. The small buses run Monday through Saturday from 6:45 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The fare is 50¢.

The route is from the Kennedy Center, up New Hampshire, north on 24th Street, west on K and under the freeway to Wisconsin Avenue, then north on Wisconsin to Whitehaven Parkway, just above the Georgetown Safeway.

It returns via Wisconsin to K, east to Washington Circle, south on 23rd Street, west on G and Virginia Avenue, and terminates at the Kennedy Center.

The shuttle service was instituted on an experimental basis, and is supported by the District Department of Transportation. It is to be evaluated in the spring to determine if it is to be continued.

The service can be helpful to FB residents who wish to shop in Georgetown, and to Georgetown people who wish to reach the Metro station and Kennedy Center.

Hop On — or We Won't Have It!

This shuttle service will be maintained only if ridership warrants it. Please remember it and use it as often as possible.

Ellie Becker

BZA OK's

7-11 Plans

7-Eleven: The Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) on Jan. 6 voted 4-1 to approve the installation of a 7-Eleven store at 912 New Hampshire Ave., now the site of Nichols grocery. However, the BZA placed several conditions on the store's operations to meet citizen concerns. The conditions include: restricting operating hours to 7 AM - 11 PM, prohibiting game machines or enhanced lighting, requiring trash containers to be placed at strategic

locations, and insuring that the store will be limited to the ground floor. The approval is valid for only three years, instead of the usual indefinite period, so that area residents can assess the store's impact and return before the BZA. The BZA's decision came after testimony against the application in December by outgoing ANC Commissioner Howard Feldman, and representatives from the FBA, Jefferson House and Foggy Bottom Mews condominiums.

Historic Property Status — What it Means to You

Daniel B. Haslam

The Foggy Bottom — West End area will be the subject of a comprehensive historical study over the next few months under Advisory Neighborhood Commission and Foggy Bottom Association grants approved late last year.

The study, termed an "architectural inventory" by historic preservation analyst Emily Eig, will take place over the next three to four months at an estimated cost of \$3,500. Eig's firm, Traceries Inc. which is located in the West End, has begun work on the project after months of discussion with local leaders and citizens about the need for such a study. The results of the study may be used by local officials to determine if any buildings within the ANC's boundaries meet the criteria for historic landmark status.

Continued on page 6



The F Street Club

25th Street Bus Ban Challenged

Maria Tyler

Following implementation by the Department of Transportation of Order 80-174, regulating bus traffic in a specified neighborhood of Foggy Bottom, Alamac Inn/River Inn filed a complaint in Superior Court against defendants Thomas M. Downs, Director, D.C. Department of Transportation, the D.C. Department of Transportation, and Burtell M. Jefferson, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction. Both were denied on June 2, and July 15, 1981, respectively.

On October 13, 1981 an Order was rendered in Superior Court, following Motion for Summary Judgment by both plaintiff and defendant, finding that this was a "contested case" within the meaning of the D.C. Administrative Procedure Act and that Defendant Downs and Defendant Department of Transportation failed to comply with the "contested case"

provisions of the D.C. A.P.A. when it promulgated D.O.T. Order No. 80-174 without a hearing. It therefore ordered D.O.T. to hold a public hearing pursuant to the contested provisions of the D.C. A.P.A.

In this hearing the community will have the burden of proof to uphold the provisions of D.O.T. Order 80-174. With the help of funds committed by the Foggy Bottom Association and the ANC-2A, we have retained legal counsel to help us represent our case during this hearing which is scheduled for February 10, 1982.

We shall desperately need additional funds. Please send your tax-deductible contributions toward meeting legal fees to ANC-2A, noting it is for the "Foggy Bottom Bus Ban" care of Maria Tyler, 949 25th St. N.W. 20037. A complete itemized accounting of deposits and drawings (as bills become due) relating to this account is available at the FBA (c/o Maureen Holscher) and ANC-2A (c/o Jon Nowick, Chairman).



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Watergate Sunoco has "grand" opening, page 5.

Fox von Boom evaluates 7-11 zoning decision, page 7.

Foggy Bottom Farmer tackles February, page 8.

Chancery Bills Considered

The Foggy Bottom ANC is involved with a city-wide coalition of neighborhood groups who are seeking to thwart certain pieces of Congressional legislation that will have a severely negative impact on the housing base not only in our neighborhood but our city as well. At issue are two problems: where will foreign missions be located in Washington and what will be the procedure for approving these locations.

For years groups like our ANC have argued that foreign countries and international agencies should conduct their business in commercially-zoned areas of the city, not residential areas. The second problem, orchestrated by our own State Department, is that the procedure of seeking approval from the D.C. Zoning Commission, Board of Zoning Adjustment and the National Capital Planning Commission is time consuming, inefficient, and humiliating for foreign countries (the seeking of city approval at an open and public hearing is somehow demeaning).

The D.C. government has cited impressive evidence that

the State Department's allegations are incorrect, but the Congress has preferred to believe the State Department rather than the city. In the most recent development, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 9-7 to adopt a version of S.854 which would permit the growth of foreign government offices in the District's residential neighborhoods — a right not afforded to American citizens or required under international law. S.854 also establishes a new District Agency which effectively circumvents the City's rights granted in its home rule charter.

Competing with S.854 is a more favorable bill, S.1818. On November 5, 1981 Senators Matthias, Eagleton and Rudman introduced S. 1818, a bill that would give the Department of State certain needed regulatory controls over the operation of foreign missions without disturbing the existing Congressionally structured process by which the NCPC, BZA or Zoning Commission determine the location of their working offices (chanceries). The procedures outlined in S.

1818 are supported by the Committee of 100 on the Federal City; the Citizens Planning Coalition of the District of Columbia; the Greater Washington Board of Trade; the Citizens Association of Georgetown; the Cleveland Park, Woodley Park, Cathedral Heights, Foggy Bottom and Sheridan-Kalorama Advisory Neighborhood Commissions; the Dupont Circle Citizens Association and the Sheridan-Kalorama Neighborhood Council.

This January will be a very important month. Action on S.854 by the full Senate will be deferred until after a hearing before the Government Efficiency and the District of Columbia Subcommittee of the Governmental Affairs Committee. This hearing is scheduled for Januazry 25th! It is important that the hearing is filled with citizens from affected residential areas like Foggy Bottom. If you would like more information or if you would like to help please contact our ANC at 659-0011 or call Rick Churchill at 331-7800.

ANC NEWS

Excerpts from the Nov. 18, Dec. 1, and Jan. 5 meetings of the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A).

The ANC office is located at 1920 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006. Phone number is 659-0011. Meetings are normally held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. The elected members of the Commission for 1982-3 are Jon Nowick, Lou Riggdon, Maria Tyler, Geoffrey Stamm, Steve Levy and Jimmy Molinelli. A seventh member will soon be certified. Rick Churchill is the administrative assistant.

Barclay House: The DC Housing Department has sent a letter to the Barclay House at 2501 K St. asking the owners to square their time-sharing, interval ownership sales plans, with provisions of the DC Condominium Act. The Housing Department took the step after Commissioner Nowick asked it to determine the legality of the time-sharing arrangement, which is the first in the city. A response by the Barclay House is due in January.

Bus Ban: At the request of Commissioner Tyler, the ANC decided in December to allocate \$1,500 toward legal expenses to defend the bus ban on parts of 25th, 26th and I Streets. See story in this issue). The \$1,500 grant was approved after discussion over the exact amount to be involved and whether some funds should be tied to a matching funds arrangement.

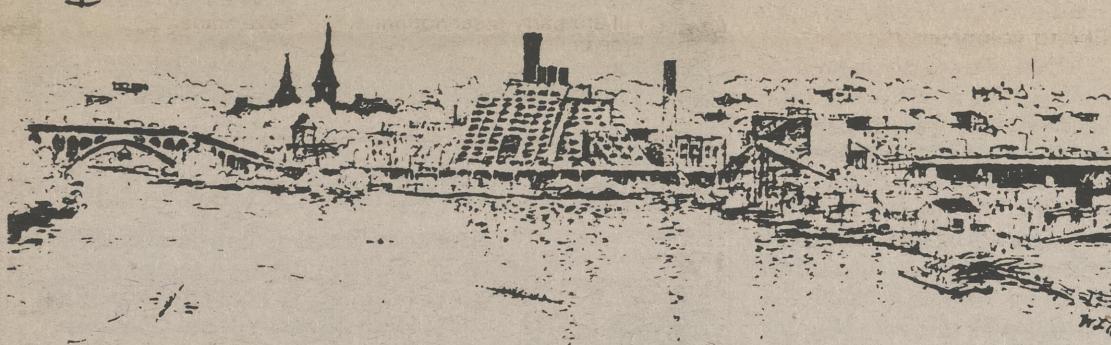
Columbia Hospital Expansion: Commissioners Nowick and Levy reported on informal talks they had with the Columbia Hospital administration in November about a proposed new medical office building to go up at the corner of 25th and M Streets. A zoning variance will be needed to place hospital parking under the new building. The administrators said that the building, which is entirely within a commercial zone, would help weaken demand for medical clinic space in the neighborhood's residential areas. Also taking part in the talks were representatives from the nearby Knightsbridge Court and Westbridge condominium associations. In a parallel move, the administration is seeking a certificate of need to build a small annex to the hospital itself.

Medical Clinics: The ANC announced in December that the Zoning Commission had turned down the ANC's request for public hearings to tighten zoning regulations governing medical clinics in residential areas. Clinics have proliferated in the neighborhood, sometimes displacing housing. The Zoning Commission, for the second time, has referred the case to the city's planning office for further study. Commissioners Levy and Nowick, who spearheaded the case, expressed disappointment over the Zoning Commission decision but have since met with planning chief James Gibson and will continue their effort.

Milton Hall Variance: In a preliminary decision on Jan. 6, the Board of Zoning Adjustment voted 3-2 to deny the George Washington University a variance to allow several dorm rooms at Milton Hall (2222 I St.) to be used to station the GWU Hospital's emergency medical team. The action follows an ANC vote in December to oppose the variance. At that ANC meeting, GWU student groups contended that the conversion of the dorm rooms would make the student housing situation even tighter and force more students to locate off-campus. Commissioner Levy, who introduced the ANC resolution, voiced concern over the use of residentially zoned property for commercial purposes and said that GWU had not adequately explored other alternatives. Levy dismissed an assertion by GWU representative Robert Dickman that on-campus issues such as this one were an "internal affair" of the University. The ANC has legal standing in all zoning cases in the neighborhood, whether they affect students or more permanent residents.

Red Lion Row: In December the ANC voted to modify its previous resolution concerning GWU's preservation of historic townhouses on Red Lion Row, the 2000-block of I Street. GWU had initiated new talks with the ANC and Don't Tear It Down, maintaining that some walls in the townhouses were too difficult to preserve. The ANC resolution, supported by Don't Tear It Down, allows GWU to replace some walls that the first resolution acknowledged were of questionable strength. But it also provides new safeguards for the preservation of some other walls. GWU spokesman Dickman and Commissioner Nowick aired recriminations at the meeting over the added expense to the new office building project and the University's record in abiding by its previous commitments. Area resident Karen Gordon helped negotiate the changes on behalf of the ANC.

West End Circle Theater: On Jan. 5 the ANC reviewed plans by the End Circle Theater to build an annex with two new theaters and nearly 400 seats, about doubling the size of the existing theater. The expansion requires several parking variances, which the Board of Zoning Adjustment is scheduled to hear on Jan. 20. Spokesmen for the theater asserted that the movie theater is a neighborhood cultural asset, is situated within a commercial zone, and that they could put up a much larger building as a matter of right if the variances are denied. Representatives from the adjacent Carriage House condominium at 2201 L St. voiced concern that the theater expansion could worsen the already tight parking situation in that area and create noise and other adverse impacts. Commissioner Nowick made several suggestions on ways to gain more on-street residential parking to a DC Dept. of Transportation official, who was at the meeting. Since the ANC commissioners were not officially sworn in as of the meeting due to DC Board of Election delays, the commission decided to act on the variance application at a special meeting scheduled for Jan. 13.



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West End Friends: Still Working to Save Library

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write to tell our area residents of the great help that the Friends of the West End Branch Library have been to the community in the past year since the group was formed.

First of all, through the art of letter writing, through phone calls, and through all sorts of other methods, we have been able to convince not only our councilman and the mayor but also the hierarchy of the Public Library that we do value our library, do plan to support it in the face of all types of opposition to try to close it or limit the hours, and given the need can supply all sorts of support services to aid our librarian and his staff.

Secondly, we were able to get the outside of the building improved and repaired to a great extent. The broken windows on the fronts of the building were replaced and the weed-filled garden space was cleaned up. The torn screening at the windows in the back was removed and in general the rear parking area was cleaned up. We now have a building which we can be proud of and one which serves as an integral part of our improving cityscape.

Thirdly, we have been able to interest more borrowers in

groups in other parts of the using the building and its facilities and in taking out new library cards so that we can show the city officials that we do exist as a neighborhood and do want to use the library. We have made more people aware that there is a library in the immediate neighborhood and have told the new residents of our area where to find it.

Fourthly, through our use of the branch and through the above methods, we have been able to ascertain that our library staff will not be cut and that we will have the branch open the same number of hours that we have enjoyed in the past at least through the rest of this year.

Fifthly, through the large number of signatures of those who wish to help the friends which have been put into the book left for that purpose on the circulation desk, we are raising an army, so to speak, of neighbors who can band together to fight against curtailment of hours, loss of staff, or any other threat to our Branch which may come about in the future and make sure that Foggy Bottom-West End stays on the city map.

Lastly, through cooperation between the various Friends'

city, we are able to work together to face common needs and threats which might affect us city-wide and can work in much larger numbers to affect changes which will keep our branches open, augment services where they are needed or delete them where they are wasted as well as attempt to get more money to buy books to put in the branches and keep each group apprised of friends and patterns in other areas.

Keep up the good work, support Mr. Horrell and his staff, use the branch, and make the city understand that we do want our branch, do need it in our community, and are prepared to fight to save it if it is threatened once again. My sincere hopes go out to all of you for a very prosperous 1982 and once again I thank you, the residents of Foggy Bottom-West End, for all the support that you have given to the Friends and to me during the past year.

Robert F. Alcorn
Chairperson
Friends of West End Branch
Library

Georgetown Park at Christmas

Maureen Mosher

After being asked for the fifth time by my suburban Virginia friends if I had seen Georgetown Park, I decided it was high time I went to see this 8th wonder of the world. My timing couldn't have been better — mid December, the height of the Christmas season.

Georgetown Park is on the corner of M St. and Wisconsin Ave., N.W. right next to what used to be the Rive Gauche Restaurant. I descended into the mouth of a large red brick building via an escalator and stepped off onto a mosaic of tiny black and white tiles. I began to be impressed as I tugged open heavy brass and etched glass doors. As I walked down a corridor leading to the central lobby area, I noticed familiar shops, such as Scan's and new shops, such as Old and New Times, a treasurehouse of grandfather clocks, pocket watches and other related antique items.

After passing through a wrought iron gate, I entered a three-story vortex of scarlet poinsettias. All around me stretched three levels of stores, each level neatly defined by wrought iron bannisters entwined with cherry red and deep green Christmas garlands.

and lined with poinsettias. A three-tier marble fountain also lined with red poinsettias dominated the lobby. Above me was an octagonal skylight from which hung four large opaque glass chandeliers filled with philodendron. There were several wooden benches scattered around the fountain to offer rest for the weary. Beyond the fountain rose a 25-foot spruce tree bedecked with white lights and red ribbons. The lobby sported several activities, including portrait sketching, a brass ensemble playing Christmas carols, and Santa Claus bouncing children and attractive young women on his knee.

To ascend to the next tier of stores, I had three choices: walk up any of the many staircases, ride up on the escalator, or ride the glass-encased elevator. As I explored all three tiers, I saw many old standards such as Casual Corner, Garfinckel's and Walden Books. But I also saw many unusual shops such as Shinera, which sells Japanese bedroom furniture, a cookbook store, a chocolate chip cookie store and several avant garde clothing stores.

Many of these stores had

merchandise with exorbitant prices. However, I found some with reasonable, if not incredibly low prices. The Picture Store offers a selection of brass or chrome-framed prints and photographs costing an average of \$40-\$60 for one measuring 20 x 26 inches. About sixty percent of their selection consists of reproductions and about 40% of signed originals. The Georgetown Zoo is filled with a variety of exotic and ordinary stuffed animals ranging in price from \$8.50 for a ten-inch animal to \$2,400 for a five foot high and 6 foot long camel. The Chesapeake Knife and Tool sells anything that will cut ranging in price from \$5.95 to \$500 for a full set of kitchen knives to outfit a professional chef. A metal smith is available to sharpen knives and scissors.

All in all, Georgetown Park reminded me of a time when city shopping was pleasant, rich and commonplace activity.



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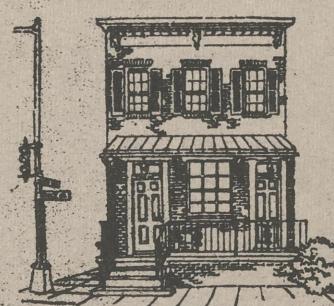


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Watergate Sunoco Service Station "Grand" Opening

Mary E. Healy

"I hadn't thought about the opening of our Foggy Bottom Metro-Rail Station in sometime — but Dec. 21 at 6:25 a.m. it came to mind!! After working so long on helping to get the Watergate Sunoco Station remodeled, Bill Parker knew I would want to be its first customer when it reopened. So he called me with a "Miss Healy, if you want to be my first customer be here by 7 a.m. on Monday."

It has been a long time since I've been up and out in "the pitch black" of the morning but out I got. I was sitting in the station in my trusty little Corvair at 6:25 a.m. when Bill Parker and Wayne Cochran pulled up for a 7 a.m. opening. I was cold and sleepy so I asked Bill so long as we are all here let's open early. Bill agreed, took the gas cap off my tank and discovered the construction man hadn't come on Sunday to unlock the gas tanks!! You really can't imagine the look on Bill's face. You've heard of Murphy's Law — if anything can go wrong, it will — well it went into effect right then and there. Bill went to the phone to call the gas man only to find that C&P hadn't come to put the phone in. So after his blood pressure went down a few points he went across the street to a phone and was told

the gas man was on his way (no one mentioned that he was coming by way of Philadelphia). Meanwhile three cars and a truck pulled in for gas and after fighting the Va. Ave. turn to get to their Sunoco Gas they were disturbed too. Bill's explanation fell on deaf ears.

Just about this time — now 7:45 a.m. — I was about to call it quits because of cold feet (literally) when flying across Va. Ave. from Watergate West came Dr. Isabelle De Bella with a "Bill, thank goodness you're finally open, I need my thermostat adjusted from air condition to heat" and right behind her came Harold Bouting of 2635 Eye with "I'm so glad you're back; I never saw construction take so long; I'll be back when you get organized."

One good thing came about with all this waiting: I got to talk to Wayne at length about his health; he's doing OK but not jumping up and down yet.

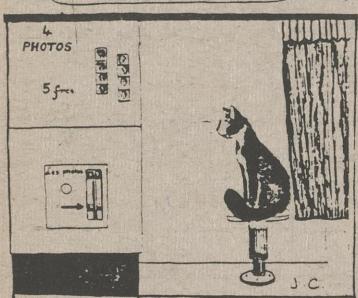
By this time it was about 8:30 a.m., Bill was hot, I was cold and Wayne was standing back with a look on his face that clearly said "Thank the Lord this isn't my problem any more." Then Dr. DeBella saved the day; she went back home and brought over some coffee cups to go with Bill's coffee. Then Bill had a chance to look around, found out the carpenter hadn't put up the

shelves for the fan belts, hoses, etc., water from the roof was leaking into the ladies room, the diesel gas pumps were located wrong, and, and, and. Reminded me of some of my "building Opening Days." Meantime a lady came in, went to use the ladies room and came out saying she was sorry but she didn't bring her umbrella so could she please use the men's room. That did it!!

As the old saying goes — the situation controls the action — so Bill had the gas pump locks sawed off, put gas in my car, then got himself a bunch of change and gave the telephone a work out. As of this writing shelves are going up, gas pumps are being moved, supplies are getting off the floor, former customers have started back and hopefully new ones are on the way.

This added service station is important to our community. Let's show Bill that we are pleased that the station has reopened and that he is back (even with all of his opening day problems); let's give him some business. He's open M-F from 8A to 10P, Sat. 8 to 8, Sun. 9 to 6. Gas, oil (diesel too), tires, batteries, etc.; complete auto repair (foreign and domestic) — all at 2643 Va. Ave. NW, Tel. 333-4648 and 333-9811.

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News from Here and There

Tim Evans' white linen and lace music box doll was shown in a December Washington Post article about Christmas crafts. Creations of the Eye Street "soft sculptor" were on display at the Renwick Gallery Museum Shop and reportedly were quickly sold.

Another local artisan used her talents for Christmas. **Elizabeth Ann Miller** was responsible for decorating the lobby of Potomac Plaza for the season. Elizabeth Ann, formerly ad manager for the FBNews, hand fashioned ornaments for the tree as well.

Dan Haslam, a Foggy Bottom attorney who has donated his services to help the neighborhood fight to retain a ban on tour bus traffic, has formed his own law firm with an associate. The firm of Brandes and Haslam will open offices soon in the West End and hopes to serve Foggy Bottom residents. To contact Dan or Lewis Brandes, call 276-9172. Best of luck to these two in their new enterprise!

Ellie Becker
&
Kathy Haley

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Landscaping For People

Six parcels of land in the Foggy Bottom area have been designated eligible for the D.C. Department of Transportation's Public Space Project. Under this new program, neighborhood residents can care for and remodel public park areas.

If D.O.T. approves a plan for landscaping, it may provide grass seed, mulch and some plants and shrubs. The supply of shrubs is limited, however, according to Stefan Harvey, a D.O.T. official who appeared at the November FBA meeting, so get your proposals ready.

The six parcels of land qualifying in Foggy Bottom are:

New Hampshire Ave., 25th & Eye Sts., N.W.	(Triangle)
New Hampshire Ave. & 24th St., N.W.	(Triangle)
New Hampshire Ave., 21st & M Sts., N.W.	(Triangle)
New Hampshire Ave. & Virginia Ave., N.W.	(Triangle)
26th & Eye Sts., N.W.	(Triangle)
Pennsylvania Ave. & 24th St., N.W.	(Triangle)
D St. & Virginia Ave., N.W.	(Triangle)
E St., bet. 20th & 21st Sts., N.W.	(Triangle)
26th St., bet. I & K Sts., N.W.	(Strip)
26th St., bet. K & L Sts., N.W.	(Strip)

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Historic Property Status

Continued from page 1

The effect of historic status on a property is the subject of considerable controversy since it alters the rights of a property owner to modify the exterior of the property, or to demolish it. Eig feels that the negative feelings toward historic status are largely due to misunderstandings about its impact.

Some popular misconceptions about historic status are that property taxes will climb following historic status and that once a residence has been declared historic it must remain a residence for all time. Eig noted that tax assessments do not increase for owners of historic properties; assessors look at factors such as the number of bedrooms or baths in determining tax rates. And the use to which the property is put is irrelevant to historic status. Eig pointed to recent conversions of historic residential properties in the Dupont Circle area to office use as an example of the goal of historic preservation: to retain architectural integrity.

One change which historic status brings is in physical modifications to the property. If the owner of an historic property wishes to change the exterior of the property, then he or she must apply for a permit from the city, just as all property owners must do when

they plan remodeling or electrical work. Permits for historic properties are flagged, while most permits are automatic, providing the necessary information is filed. The historic property receives a hearing on the application, which most often involves the property owner appearing before the Joint Committee on Landmarks and explaining what it is he or she plans to do.

For example, if the owner of an historic townhouse wishes to remove a porch, he or she would provide a photograph of the house with porch and explain why the porch is to be removed. The Joint Committee would inquire as to whether the porch was original to the house, whether the porch has been changed over time (e.g. wrought iron railings replacing wood railings), and whether the demolition would enhance the house.

If the committee rejects an application, the property owner has the right to appeal to the mayor and can prove the special merit of the proposal or financial hardship to the owner if the proposal is not accepted.

The process has several safety valves built into it, according to Eig, and she dismisses criticism of the preservation movement. "Preservation is being called the bad guy



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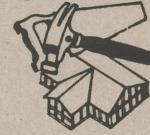
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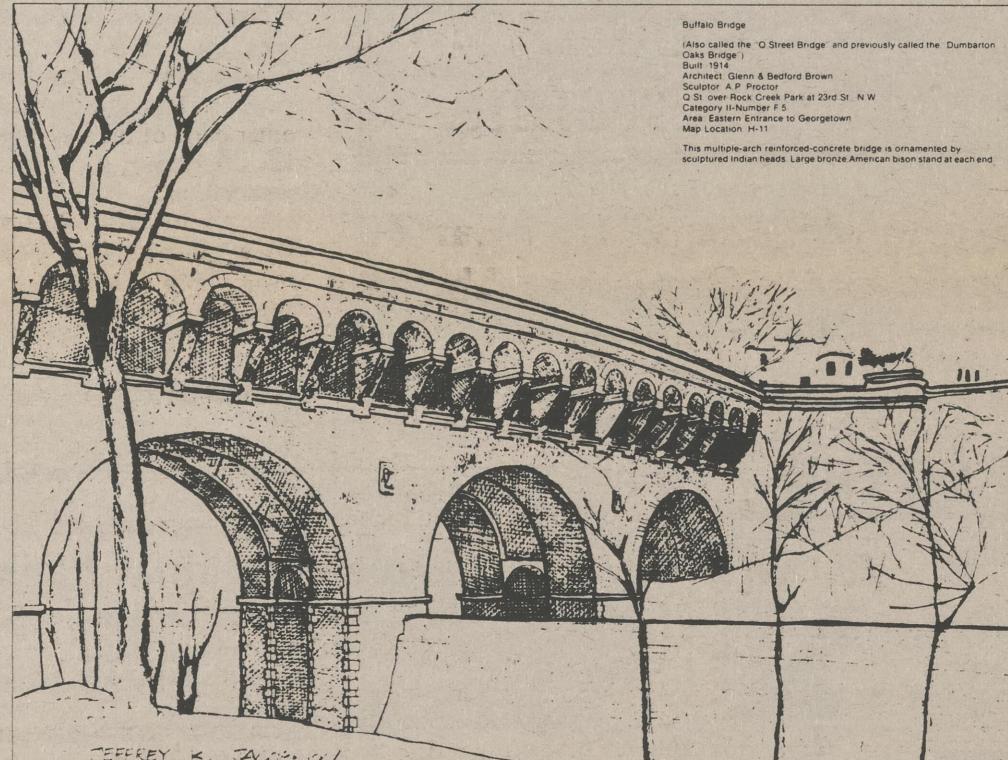
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Q St's Buffalo Bridge

(in restricting property owners) . . . Zoning has much more of an impact in telling you what you can or can't do with your property."

The Traceries study of the area will consist of several stages. Survey mapping of the neighborhood is part of the initial effort and photographs of each building older than fifty years will be taken by neighborhood volunteers. An on-site survey will be made of each building, and public records will be researched to provide historical background. No contact between Traceries and property owners is planned.

Subsequent stages of the project involve determining which properties have the greatest historic value and publishing Traceries' findings. The neighborhood will then

decide whether to proceed with historic status applications.

Eig has suggested that individual blocks within Foggy Bottom-West End may be found to have historic value but that no area-wide historic status would be sought as is the case in Georgetown. There are too many modern "intrusions" into our area.

The neighborhood must raise an additional \$1,500 to cover projected expenses for the study. At a special meeting of the ANC on November 18, 1981, \$1,000 was voted for the project, an amount which can be increased from time to time. The Foggy Bottom Association matched the ANC's \$1,000 contribution at its Nov. 30, 1981 meeting, and may seek to offset additional

costs through fundraising activities.

In arguing for funding for the study, FBA Vice President Maureen Holscher pointed to the value of putting developers on notice of the historic priorities of the citizens through the study. "We've lost a lot of buildings," she lamented. "We'd like to be on the offensive for a change."

Documentation Sought

Do you have any old pictures, maps or any other historical documents pertaining to Foggy Bottom and the West End? The Foggy Bottom Association is trying to locate this kind of historical data. If you can help please call Rick Churchill at 331-7800.

The Urban Scene



"Oh Thank Heaven (for) 7 Eleven", proudly emblazoned upon that suburban institution's coffee cups, is not understood by urban dwellers as it is by enlightened city planners. It was sociologist Jane Jacobs in her 1961 classic, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, who first documented and then with examples from across the nation convinced the city planners. Jacobs proved that it was the neighborhoods that contained, among many other things, the 24-hour Howard Johnsons and 7 Elevens that were and would be the viable, low-crime neighborhoods that urban residents would come to value.

The last paragraph in "The Death and Life of the Great American Cities" (now in a new paperback edition) states well a summation of what can be expected of city neighborhoods that either turn their backs on or follow these findings: "Dull, inert cities (or neighborhoods) it is true, do contain the seeds of their own destruction and little else. But lively, diverse, intense cities contain the seeds of their own regeneration, with energy enough to carry over for problems and needs outside themselves."

(William S. Lattin,
Landscape Architect/Transportation Environmentalist).

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City Board Turns Deaf Ear To Community Concerns About 7-11 Opening

Ignoring the unanimous view of community representatives that a Seven-Eleven store at 912 N.H., Ave. would be a neighborhood nuisance and serve no community needs, the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) decided on January 6th to grant an application for a zoning variance for the building at that location, clearing away the one obstacle that stood in the way of Southland Corporation's efforts to open a store in the residential section of Foggy Bottom.

At hearings in early December, representatives of the Foggy Bottom Association, the ANC, Foggy Bottom Mews, and the Jefferson House, along with other Foggy Bottom residents, continually pressed home before the BZA the point that the opening of a 7-11 store at 912 N.H. Ave. would have an adverse impact on the neighborhood in the form of unwanted noise, litter, traffic, and criminal elements. Representing the ANC, Commissioner Howard Feldman explained to the BZA that, from interviews of neighbors of a 7-11 store on P Street in Georgetown, he had turned up evidence of noisy 6:00 a.m. milk deliveries through the front entrance, police vehicles standing outside at night with

radios blaring, and street people hanging around the site. He also pointed out that a survey he had conducted of 7-11 prices vs. Safeway prices showed, relative to all the standard items surveyed, a marked disparity in prices in favor of the Safeway products.

Apparently relying on their time-worn custom of discounting evidence of prospective adverse impact unaccompanied by evidence of actual impact, the BZA rejected the community's pleas and granted the requested variance, restricting hours for the store's operations to 7 a.m. - 11 p.m., seven days a week. The BZA also established some minor requirements relative to outside signs and trash container availability. The BZA order is effective for three years.

Some members of the Foggy Bottom community have indicated their intention to take up with the authorities in City Hall the BZA's "Catch 22" approach to handling zoning variance cases involving establishments without a history of operations to assess. How, they have asked, can a community, without becoming a guinea pig, successfully bar from its borders a business which is unwanted and whose adverse impact is apparent to all concerned.

Classified Advertising

CLASSIFIED AD RATES. 10 cents per word, \$1.50 minimum. Make checks payable to Foggy Bottom Association. Send to Foggy Bottom News, c/o West End Library, 24th & L Sts., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

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Library Hours

The West End Library, at 24th and L Sts. NW, is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. It is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

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News and Views from Queen Ann's Lane

I hope you had an enjoyable holiday. May you have good health and happiness in the new year.

In November, some of the Laners had a surprise birthday party for **Barbara Watson**, then Barbara and Grace went to Martha's vineyard to close their home there for the winter. In January, Barbara will be associated with the law firm of Italo H. Ablondi. **Marguerite Stoessel** recently returned from attending the wedding of a cousin in Caracas.

Again this year **Murdaugh Madden** led a group in singing Christmas carols through the streets of the Bottom. Murdaugh played the violin and tried to keep us in tune. We were all grateful to the nice young girl from I street who rushed out to bring us delicious chocolate chip cookies as well as to those who offered liquid refreshment.

Ralph Bayrer is sporting a sun tan which he acquired while visiting his parents in Fort Lauderdale Florida, over Christmas. **Wiley Chambers** returned to his home in Connecticut to accompany his family to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas and other parts of the west over the holidays. We are delighted to see **Jane Checkan** up and about after a serious bout with pneumonia.

Last but far from least, we want **Susan and Joe Reintzel** to know how much their gleaming new lamp and door fixtures spruce up our little lane.

ANC Meeting
Tuesday, February 2
7:30 p.m.
St. Mary's Court
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Foggy Bottom Farmer

William S. Lattin

In February, our hearts are lightened with expectation. Is not the woodchuck (ground hog) most often a harbinger of better days?

If you must be convinced, look to your noontime shadow and see how it shortens as the sun that casts it climbs to warm you perceptibly more each passing week.

When the snow is mostly gone, Snowdrops will be in flower, Crocus in bud and near building foundations in south dooryards, Daffodils and some varieties of early Tulips will be pushing from the ground their first green tongues of leaves. Where native, the Winter Jasmine with its arching branches garlanded with pale yellow blossoms, will continue its bloom.



Columbia Hospital: Showcase For Washington Women Artists

Virginia Lang Sachs

Foggy Bottom is not well known for its art galleries, but some of the finest art in the Washington area is being exhibited in the newly renovated Columbia Hospital for Women at 25th & L Streets.

A unique permanent collection acquired through Columbia's art consultant, Jeannette Petite, the featured works are all by Washington women artists and were chosen as a tribute to the women served by

Columbia.

Ms. Petite, an occupational therapist by training, is a working sculptress and is active with the Corcoran gallery. As an art consultant she has been responsible for the acquisitions of a number of prominent law firms and corporate offices throughout the Washington area. Her interest and familiarity with both hospitals and art gave her particular insight into the special

sensibilities of a women's hospital. When asked how she made her selections, Ms. Petite said, "I tried to choose art reflecting what goes on or what is needed in a particular area; where children are allowed I chose something whimsical (near the 3rd floor well-baby nursery is a magnificent 8-foot Dot Woodall with children and balloons at play); where there might be tension such as the radiology waiting area, I selected something more serene and calming."

A broad cross-section of works were selected for Columbia among which are pieces by such well-known Washington artists as Joan Danzinger and Sheila Isham. Ms. Petite's goal was to exhibit as many media as possible; acrylics, canvases, tapestry, paper and sculpture. To date, all are represented except a piece of sculpture for which she is still searching.

Columbia welcomes visitors to come see the new collection — for a tour of the hospital, call Columbia's Office of Public Relations (293-2048).

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Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

82-2

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bus Restrictions on 25th, 26th & I Streets, N.W.

(Director's Order 80-174)

Notice is hereby given that the Government of the District of Columbia will hold a public hearing on Director's Order 80-174 which restricts bus traffic on 25th, 26th and I Streets, N.W. The Department of Transportation's Director's Order was published on January 16, 1981 in the D.C. Register (28 DCR 301) as a proposed rule amending the D.C. Highway and Traffic Regulations (now recodified as Title 18 of the D.C. Municipal Regulation, Vehicles and Traffic).

Numerous comments were received in response to the Director's Order. After reviewing them, Director Thomas Downs issued a notice of final rulemaking which was published in the D.C. Register (28 DCR 2156) on May 15, 1981. Title 18 DCMR section 4006 was amended to prohibit the operation of buses on

"25th Street, N.W. from Virginia Avenue to K Street, at all times.

"26th Street, N.W. from I Street to K Street, at all times.

"I Street, N.W. from New Hampshire Avenue to 26th Street, at all times."

and 18 DCMR 4027 was amended to establish sightseeing bus stands at

"Virginia Avenue, N.W. from a point 74 feet west of 25th Street to a point 137 feet west of 25th Street at all times.

"K Street, N.W. from a point 379 feet west of 24th Street to a point 422 feet west of 24th Street, at all times."

On October 13, 1981 the Superior Court of the District of Columbia ordered the Department of Transporta-

tion to hold a public hearing on Director's Order 80-174. To facilitate participation of parties directly affected, the public hearing will be held in the dining hall of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2430 K St., N.W. on Wednesday, February 10, 1982 at 7:30 p.m.

The hearing will be conducted as a contested case. Parties, including individuals and organizations, may appear either in person or through counsel; all parties are requested to furnish in writing their names, addresses, and telephone numbers and, if any, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of counsel, by February 3, 1982. Each party is requested to submit a list of witnesses anticipated to be called on its behalf. Witnesses will testify under oath or affirmation, and their testimony will be subject to cross-examination by any party.

Any documents or written statements to be submitted for the record on behalf of any party must be filed by 5 p.m. on February 3, 1982; such documents and statements will be available for examination by any party from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on February 4, 5, 8, and 9, 1982 in Room 508 of the Presidential Building, 415 12th Street, N.W. Names of parties and counsel, witness lists, documents and statements requested by this notice should be filed with Tara Hamilton, Executive Assistant to the Director, Room 508 of the Presidential Building. For further information, contact Ms. Hamilton at 727-5847.